

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

Applicant submits herewith new claims 6 and 7 which correspond to those claims which have been patented in the corresponding European application. It is submitted that these new claims as well as previously submitted claim 5 patentably define over the art of record.

There is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a valve battery cartridge having an interchangeable insertion piece which enables the advantages set forth in the instant specification. U.S. Patent 5,806,552 fails to recognize the problem which the instant application is designed to overcome and fails to teach, suggest or render obvious an interchangeable insert as claimed which insert leads to the advantageous features of the present invention. Absent a recognition of the prior art problem which the instant application overcomes, it is impossible to see the motivation that the examiner has for solving the problem in accordance with the claimed invention, that is, by providing an interchangeable insertion piece in a valve battery as claimed in independent claims 5 and 6.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that independent claims 5 and 6 patentably define over the art of record and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

It is believed that dependent claim 7 contains patentable merit in its own right. The prior art fails to teach the seals as specifically claimed in dependent claim 7.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the early issuance of a notice of allowance.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it
is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit
Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

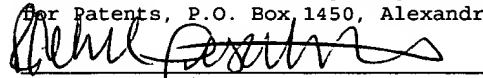
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal
Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on March 3, 2005.


Rachel Piccitelli